

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 09175 032212Z

61

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 SP-02 EB-07 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8193

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 9175

STADIS//////////

FROM US DEL ICNAF RIDGWAY

OES FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY IRVING AND OES/OFA FOR BUSBY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, PFOR

SUBJECT: US/CANADA FISHERIES TALKS; EC AND ICNAF

1. (TEXT) TWO ITEMS CAME UP IN COURSE OF ICNAF'S FIRST DAY WHICH MAY BE RELEVANT TO ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE DEPARTMENT AT THIS TIME.

2. U.S./CANADA FISHERIES TALKS -- LEGAULT (CANADA) TOLD ME HE HAD JUST LEARNED THAT CANADIANS, THROUGH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, HAD FLOATED IDEA OF POSTPONING JANUARY 17-31 NEGOTIATIONS. LEGAULT SAID THAT PROPOSAL TO DO SO HAD BEEN CURRENT IN OTTAWA WHEN HE LEFT BUT HE HAD URGED THOSE SPONSORING IT (REPORTEDLY MINEXTAFF OFFICIALS IN U.S. SECTION WHO BELIEVED PROSPECT OF TALKS BREAKING OFF JUST AS ADMINISTRATION CHANGED ARGUED IN FAVOR OF POSTPONEMENT TO AVOID RISK) NOT TO GO FORWARD AS IT WOULD BE SEEN BY U.S. AS CANADA QUOTE DRAGGING ITS HEELS UNQUOTE. LEGAULT WANTED TO ASSURE ME THAT CANADA IS PREPARED TO GO FORWARD  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MADRID 09175 032212Z

JANUARY 17 AND ASKED THAT WE IGNORE ANY CANADIAN

EMBASSY APPROACHES TRYING TO GET US TO AGREE TO POST-PONEMENT.

3. SUGGESTION OF QUOTE BREAKING OFF TALKS UNQUOTE OF COURSE LED TO QUESTION OF WHY SHOULD THEY BE BROKEN OFF, AS ELEMENTS OF SHORT-TERM ARRANGEMENT ON FISH QUA FISH ARE READILY APPARENT. LEGAULT AGREED WITH ASSESSMENT QUOTE IF WE ARE JUST TALKING ABOUT FISH UNQUOTE BUT RETURNED TO HIS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT SOUTH CHANNEL, JUAN DE FUCA CHANNEL, ETC. I TOLD HIM WE DID NOT RPT NOT SEE WHY CANADIANS KEPT RETURNING TO THIS WHEN SUBJECT WAS AND IS FISH. LEGAULT SAID IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE FOR CANADA TO GO FORWARD WITHOUT TAKING ACCOUNT OF CANADIAN WEST COAST INTEREST IN CHANNEL LINE WHILE DEALING WITH U.S. ON BASIS U.S.-CLAIMED CHANNEL LINE. I REPEATED TO LEGAULT ALL THE ARGUMENTS ABOUT DIFFERENT SITUATIONS, OUR VIEW THEY HAD DRAWN THEIR LINES, ETC., BUT TO NO AVAIL. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING CANADA WOULD GO FORWARD WITH FISH TALKS, WITH ALL ITS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS, BUT HE WONDERED WHETHER THIRD PARTY ARBITRATION OF BOUNDARY WASN'T ONLY WAY TO PROCEED. HE ADDED IT WAS U.S. FAULT THAT BOUNDARIES KEPT GETTING INTO FISHERIES, POINTING TO FACT THAT I RELIED HEAVILY ON L/OES LAWYER (COLSON) INVOLVED IN BOUNDARY TALKS TO SUPPORT ME IN FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS. CONVERSATION ENDED QUICKLY AT THIS POINT.

4. EC AND ICNAF -- EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BEHAVIOR AT NEAFC MEETING IN LONDON WHICH PRECEDED ICNAF JUDGED BY ALL PRESENT (EXCEPT EC, OF COURSE) AS OUTRAGEOUS. EC REJECTED ENTIRELY CONCEPT OF TRANSITION FROM MULTILATERAL MANAGEMENT OF ITS ABOUT-TO-BE-CLAIMED COASTAL RESOURCES TO COASTAL STATE (EC) MANAGEMENT AND REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE IN NEAFC. ATMOSPHERE SO BAD THAT EVEN SPANISH WELCOMING STATEMENT HERE AT ICNAF REFERRED TO FACT THAT OTHER THAN EC, NO ONE AT NEAFC OPENED MOUTHS OR BRIEFCASES. AS WE DISCUSS TRANSITION OF ICNAF HERE THERE ARE REPEATED REFER-

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 09175 032212Z

ENCES TO WILLINGNESS OF ICNAF COASTAL STATES TO TRY TO DO DIFFERENTLY THAN EC AND CONSTANT COMPARISONS BETWEEN TWO ORGANIZATIONS. IT IS A LITTLE EMBARRASSING, AS WE MAY DO THE SAME AS THE EC IN TIME, BUT SOMEWHAT COMFORTING THAT THE RECORD SHOWS, AND IS ACKNOWLEDGED TO SHOW, THAT WE TRIED. ALSO, IF EVER U.S. AND CANADA WERE BAD GUYS, WE'VE BEEN REPLACED, AND NEW STANDARD OF CONTRARINESS ESTABLISHED, TO ITS

APPARENT DISCREDIT HERE, BY EC.  
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## Message Attributes

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